

REMARKS

Claims 9-12, 13, 16, and 27-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. In response thereto, Applicant has amended claim 13 and 16 and cancel claims 9-12 and 27-31 to address the issues raised by the Examiner. Accordingly, all of the claims are now deemed to be in compliance with 35 USC §112.

Claim 13 is rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Lomp, U.S. 5,574,747. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Lomp '747, in view of Agah, U.S. 6,370,187.

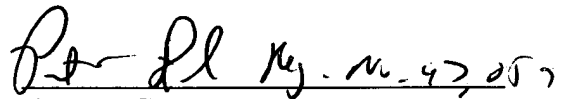
Claim 13 has been amended to include the limitations of former claim 14, and thus is now deemed to be allowable. Moreover, claims 15 and 16 are also allowable since they depend on claim 13.

Claims 1 and 17 are objected to certain informalities. Applicant has amended the claims to address the Examiner's concerns.

In view of the above amendments and for all the reasons set forth above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the objections and rejections made under 35 U.S.C. §§ 103 and 112, first and second paragraphs. Accordingly, an early indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding matters pending in this application, please feel free to contact the undersigned below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Matthew E. Connors", written over a horizontal line.

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